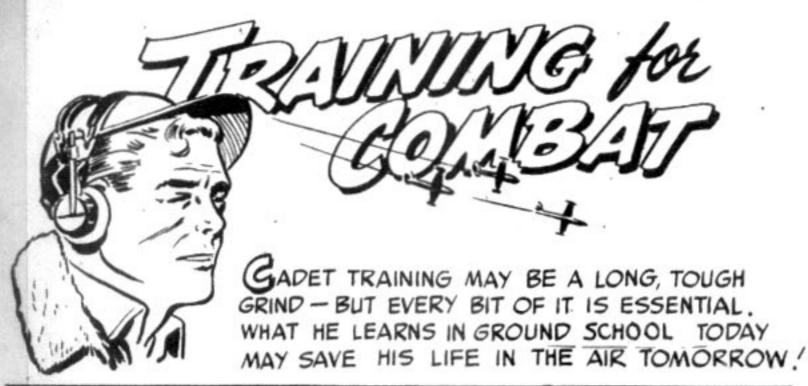


When the Pilot Blacked-Out STUNTING WITH DEATH



The Colonel Was a "Softie" GRIPES OF WRATH



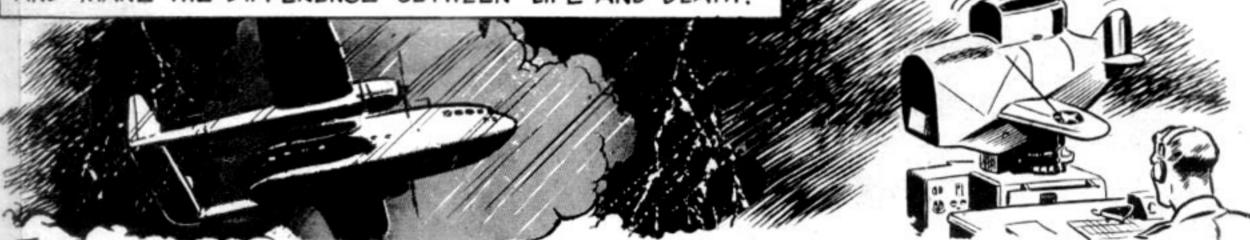




THE CADETS PRACTICE STUNT FLYING WITH SPINS, LOOPS AND IMMELMANN TURNS UNTIL THEY CAN DO THEM LETTER PERFECT. THIS EXPERIENCE MAY SAVE SPLIT SECONDS IN AIR COMBAT AND MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH.



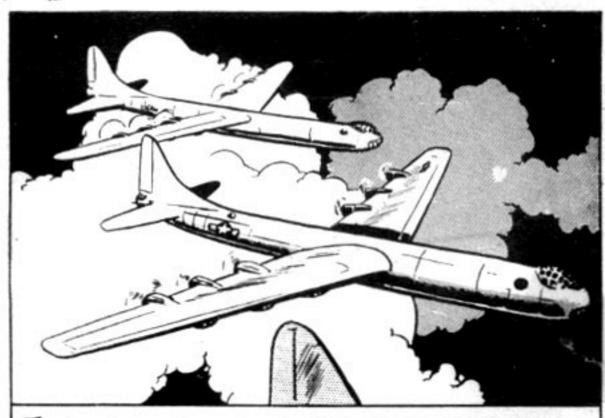
SPOT LANDING INSIDE A 100
FOOT CIRCLE MAY SOUND EASY, BUT
THAT WHITE RING LOOKS AWFULLY
SMALL FROM THE AIR. LANDING STRIPS
IN A WAR ZONE ARE SMALL AND
ROUGH, ACCURACY IS IMPERATIVE!



THE STUDENT PILOT DOES HUNDREDS OF HOURS OF BLIND FLYING IN THE LINK TRAINER WITHOUT LEAVING THE GROUND. THIS MACHINE GIVES A PERFECT ILLUSION OF BLIND FLYING, COMPLETE WITH BUMPY FLIGHT, ENGINE NOISE AND INSTRUMENT READINGS.



THE SEAT EJECTOR ENABLES THE JET PILOT TO BAIL OUT SAFELY IN SPITE OF THE 600 M.P.H. SLIPSTREAM, SUCH EJECTION CAN BE DANGEROUS IF NOT EJECTED CORRECTLY; SO CADETS PRACTICE IN THIS GROUND MODEL.

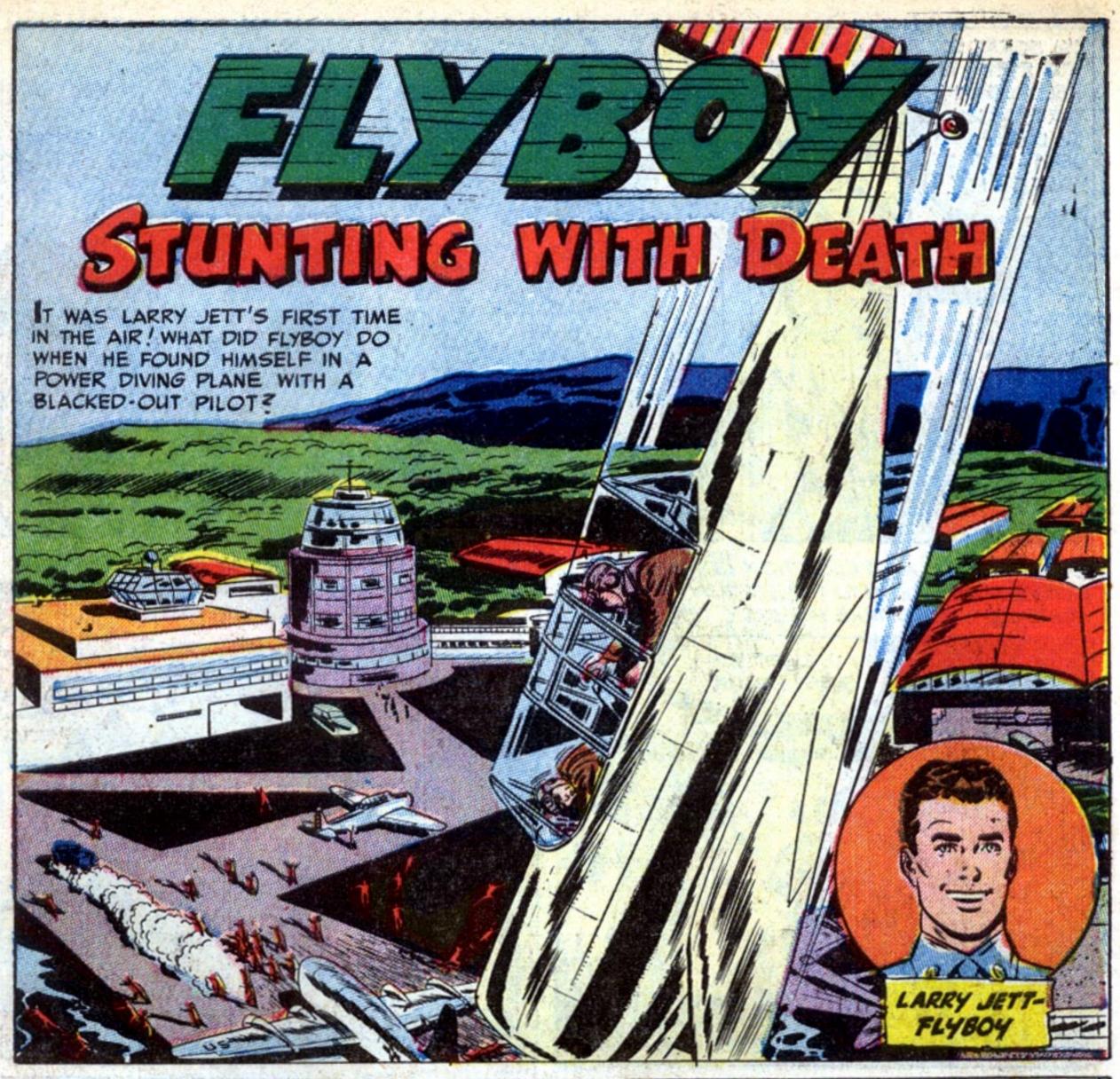


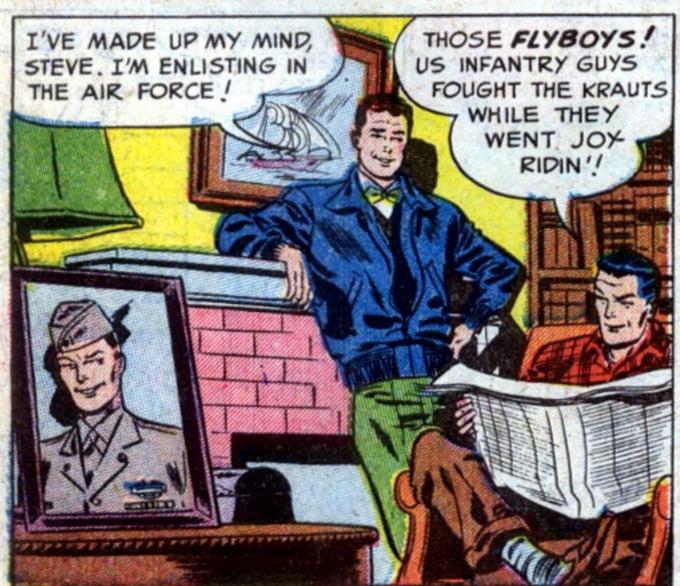
FORMATION FLYING IS FOR PROTECTION—NOT BEAUTY. THE PURSUIT PILOT IS COVERED BY HIS WINGMAN, AND THE BOMBERS USE THEIR COMBINED FIREPOWER TO REPEL ATTACKERS.

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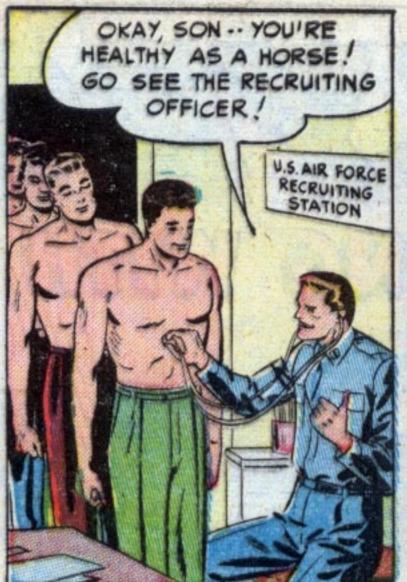
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AFTER A WEEK AT A RECEPTION CENTER LARRY HEADED SOUTH TO THE STATION WHERE HE WAS TO TAKE HIS BASIC TRAINING.



HERE LARRY'S CAREER AS AN AIRMAN BEGAN ...







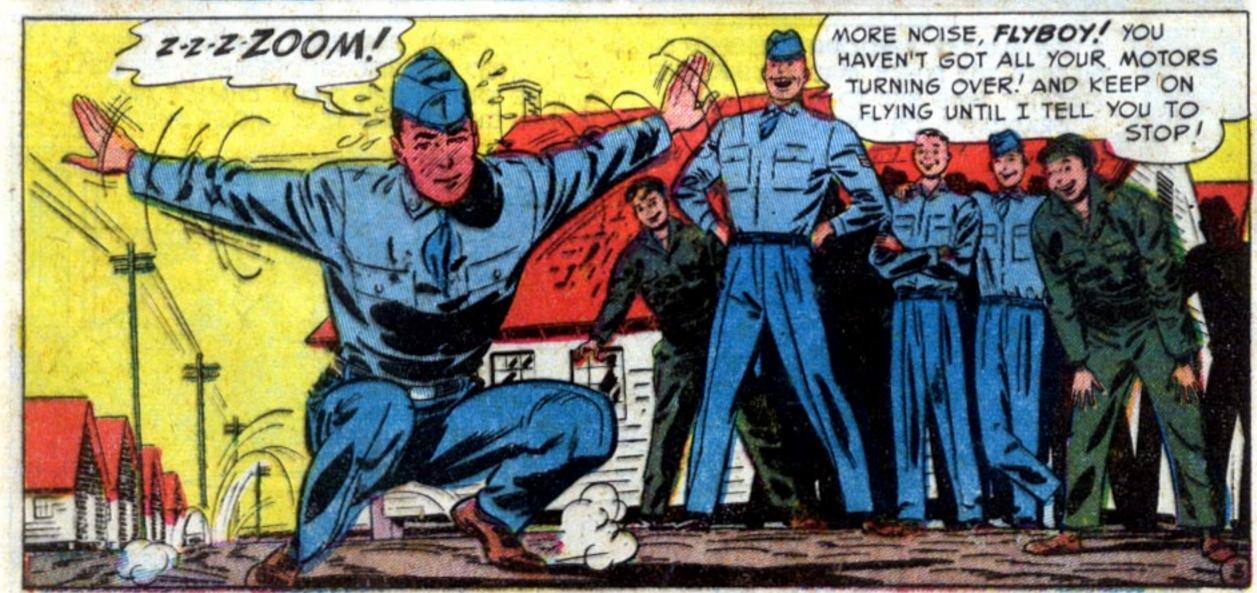




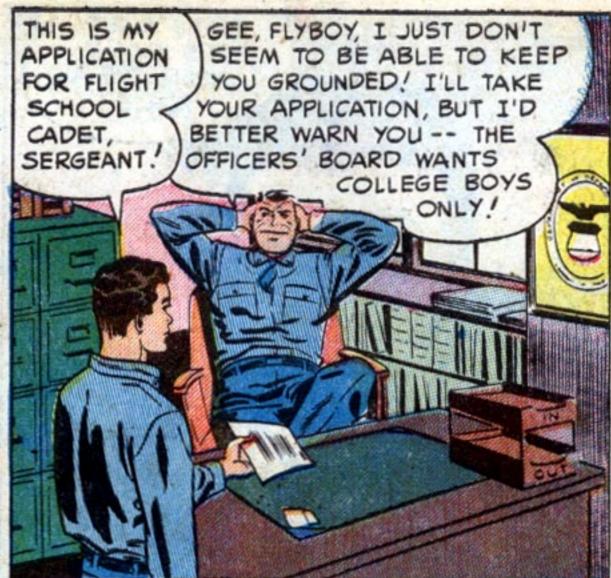




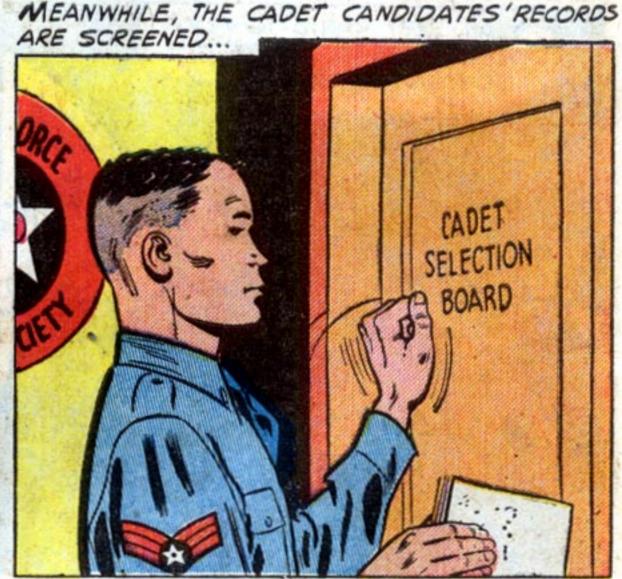






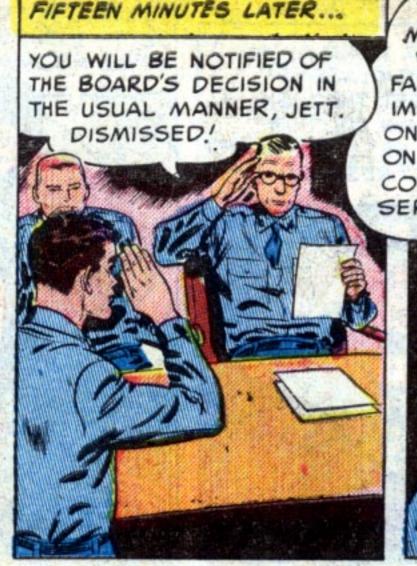






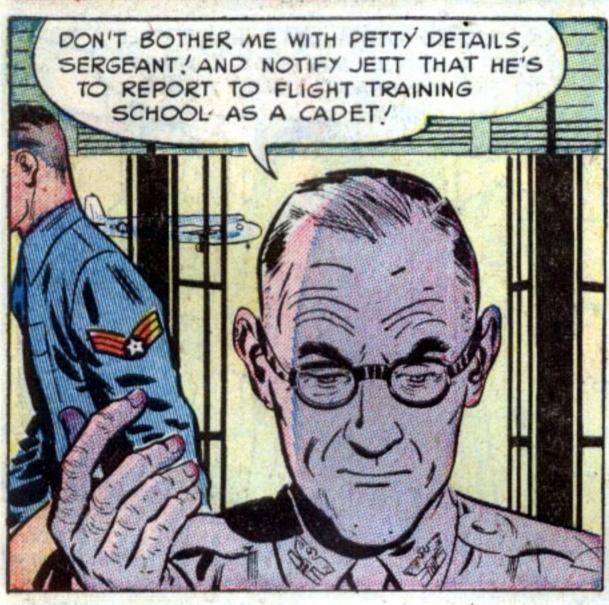




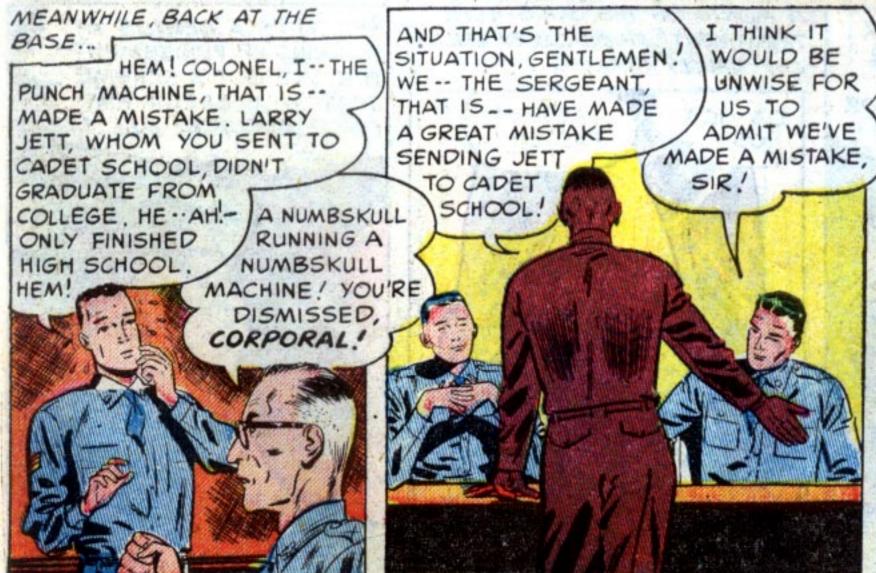


YES, SIR, I RAN ALL YOUNG JETT THE CARDS THROUGH MADE A THE PUNCH MACHINE. VERY THE COLLEGE MEN FAVORABLE WERE IN ONE STACK IMPRESSION THE NON-COLLEGE ON US. HE'S MEN IN ANOTHER. ONE OF THE COLLEGE MEN, JETT'S CARD WAS IN THE COLLEGE SERGEANT STACK. THEREFORE.

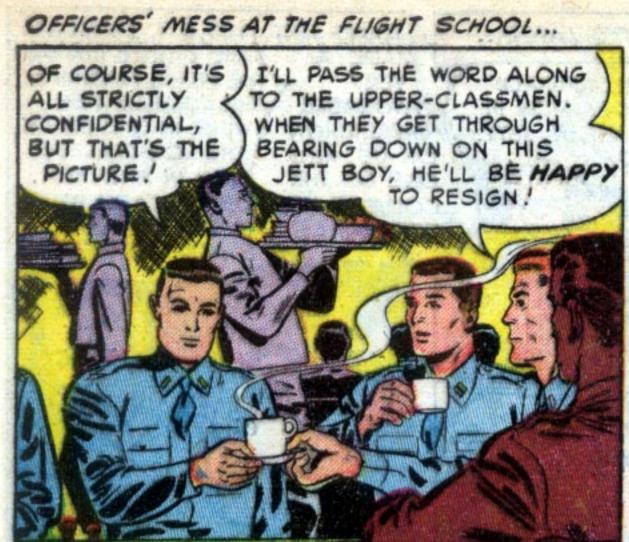








WE CAN'T REVOKE JETT'S
APPOINTMENT, BUT WE
CAN PASS THE WORD
ALONG TO THE CADET
SCHOOL TO SEE TO IT
THAT HE'S WASHED OUT
IN A HURRY!

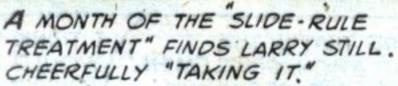














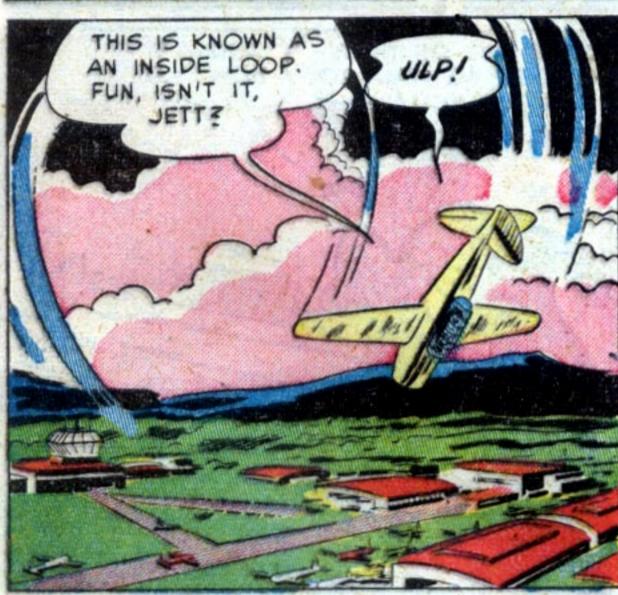








THAT WAS TERRIBLE,





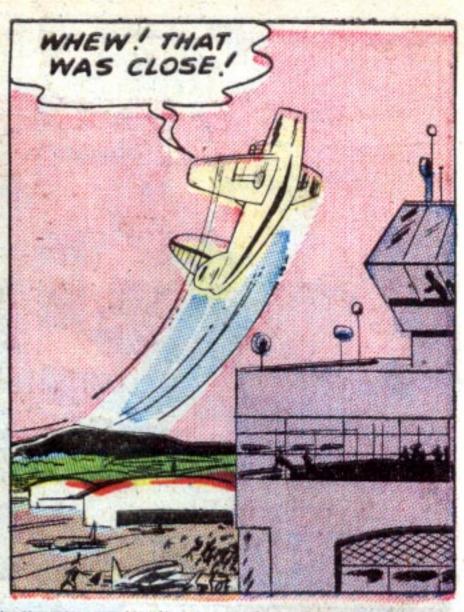


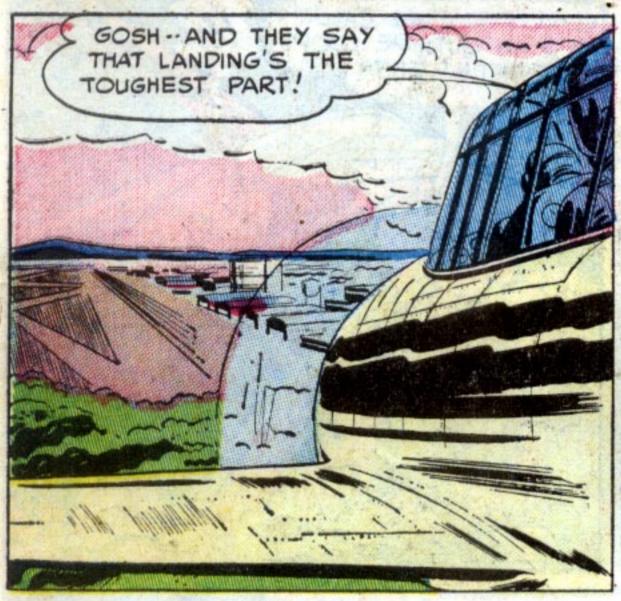


















SO JETT TOOK YOU KNOW, ON SECOND THOUGHT OVER THE CONTROLS AND I DON'T THINK WE LANDED THE PLANE - HIS WANT TO FIRST TIME WASH JETT OUT OF HERE. IN THE AIR! THE LOOKS LIKE PRETTY GOOD AIR FORCE MATERIAL TO ME!



AT THE WEEKLY CADET SCHOOL DANCE, "FLYBOY" LARRY JETT FINDS THAT A NEWLY-ARRIVED CADET IS OUT TO BEAT HIS TIME WITH ANNE CHICKERING.



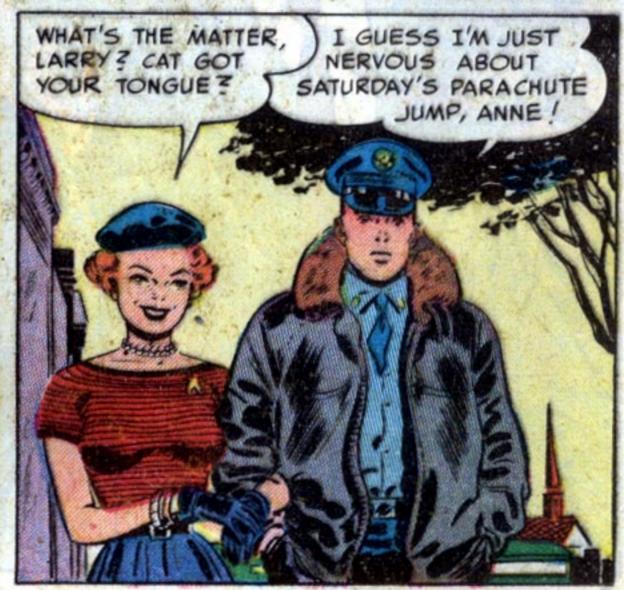
TELL ME OKAY, ANNE! MORE WANNA HEAR ABOUT ABOUT THE TIME YOUR I PARACHUTED ADVENTURES DOWN ON A IN KOREA, COMMIE CAL! BATTALION HEADQUARTERS AND CAPTURED THREE CHICKEN COLONELS AND A GENERAL SINGLE. HANDED? THEY GIMME THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS FOR THAT LITTLE CAPER!

WAR HERO! HUH! ALL MY BABE KOREA TALKS ABOUT IS CAL! HE'S HOW LUCKY WE CUT ME ARE TO HAVE OUT WITH KAY-DET CAL CALVERT, THE ANNE, G-G-R-REAT HAPPY! PARATROOPER! WHY DIDN'T HE STAY IN THE PARATROOPS?









































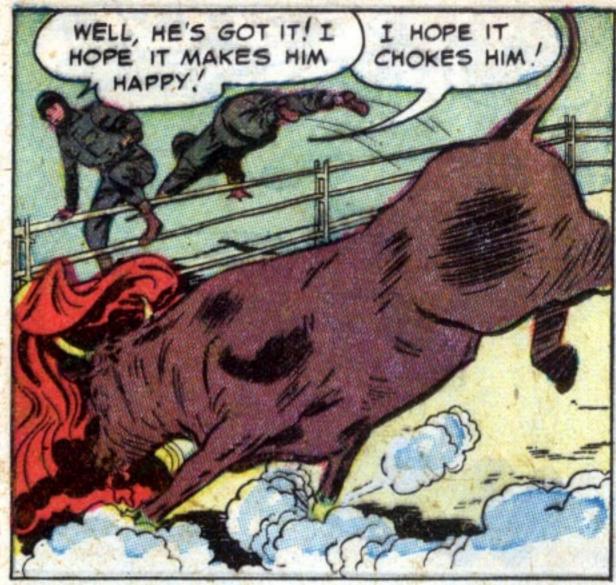




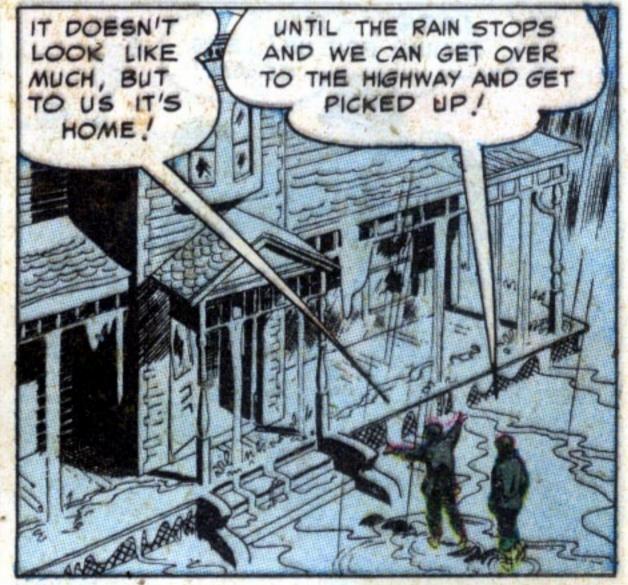








































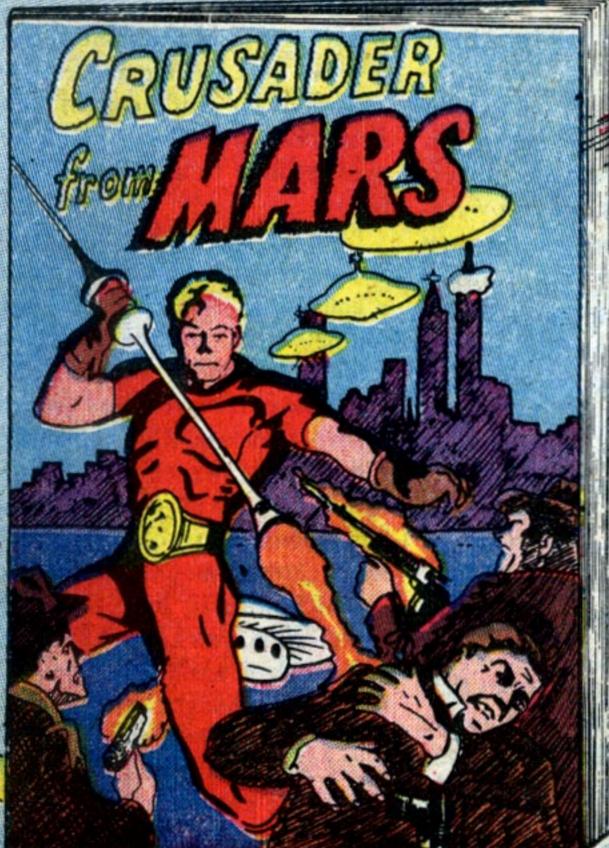


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# The Dogface

THE ARTILLERY barrage had lasted two hours, two long hours filled with the thunder of exploding shells and the screams of the wounded. Slowly the cold of the frozen Korean soil and the lack of motion spread a numbness through Sergeant Steve Chandler's body: a warning that could not be ignored. There was no room to stir in the foxhole, but to move from it meant sure death. He could feel his legs going numb.

Then the jets came. Their hissing rumble climbed up from somewhere behind the front and roared overhead in the direction of the enemy guns. The barrage slowed, the wail and explosion of shells spaced with moments of silence—then it stopped entirely. In the hush he heard the jets returning from the enemy emplacements, their job done. They swept back over the lines towards the home fields, the weak winter sunlight glinting from their wings.

At this moment a dream was born, a dream that was to carry Steve thousands of miles back to the States to an airfield in Alabama. He had done his work as a foot soldier, and done it well, but when the jets swept by overhead he raised his sights. They were aimed at the sky now—and nothing was going to stop him!

... A large hand smacked him on the shoulder, snapping him out of his thoughts. He was in the cadet barracks, surrounded by the familiar rows of desks and bunks, leaning head in hand over the painfully-worked figures on the sheets of paper before him. Frank Edwards struck his shoulder again, and laughed, loud enough for all the cadets in the bay to hear.

"Dogface, I'll bet you wish that slide rule was an M-1. You'd shoot that navigation problem full of holes! Things were never like this in the infantry."

The cadets laughed. Steve had left school early to go to work in a factory and from there to the army. He was rusty in reading and studying and had to labor over every page. The other cadets were college students who finished each day's

work easily, and the sight of Steve bent doggedly over his desk writing and chewing his pencil hour after hour far into the night always amused them. Frank Edwards who was tops in the class without ever seeming to open a book, found it especially funny.

"What's the matter, Infantry? Too much talk and not enough walk?" Frank did an imitation of a collapsing soldier laboring along under a two-ton field pack, and the room shook with laughter. Even Steve smiled wryly at the miserable figure. His classmates were good joes, but sometimes he wished they wouldn't kid him quite as much as they did. He needed every leisure hour for study. He would have liked to have time to laugh and to kid around, or to do anything besides pore end-lessly through mountains of books.

"Stick with it, boy! Genius is ninety percent perspiration, you know," Frank Edwards told him, and laughed again. This time he was openly offensive. He thought Steve a fool.

The others chortled, and Steve suddenly wondered if they all thought he was stupid. When he got into a plane, he was a good pilot, one of the best, in fact, just as he had been a good fast-thinking sergeant, respected and liked by his men. But what could he do to win the respect of his fellowstudents? For a moment he resisted the impulse to hurl his fist into Frank's smile. Then he picked up his slide rule and turned to his problem again.

The following morning was bright and clear, perfect flying weather. With the other caders Steve lined up for air instruction.

They were shooting takeoffs and landings. Instruction planes were taking off and coming in, some coming in long smooth glides, others landing in a series of unhappy bounces like startled jackrabbits. "I like everything but the landings," Glen Isaac said behind him, deadpan. "Sometimes I wonder where the ground is, you know?"

Steve laughed. Frank Edwards, who was buckling on his chute harness for the next flight, smiled and spoke to Steve with good-natured contempt. "It isn't like hiking either, soldier! Don't start digging foxholes in this field with your plane. Even your GI insurance won't pay for a new runway."

A plane taxied into the flight line and a student climbed out. The instructor signalled to the waiting cadets.

"Edwards next . . . " The voice called. "We'll run through some landings. Five or six passes."

With a final contemptuous smile at Steve, Frank trotted off.

Waiting for the instructor to get to him, Steve watched Frank's plane. It took off, circled, approached the field smoothly, and the nose pulled up slightly at the end of the glide path for a perfect three-point landing. Five times in a row Frank did it, each landing almost identical with the last. As a pilot, Frank was on the beam. Almost as good as he was himself, Steve thought reluctantly; as Frank brought his plane in for its final trial, completed the landing smoothly, and turned and taxied toward the waiting flight line. He turned the runway corners sharply, gunning the engine slightly to whip the tail around. Steve stirred uneasily. He didn't like that kind of handling. It was showy, with-always-a chance of a groundloop.

The plane rolled briskly up the white concrete runway to the flight line and the waiting men. The pilot hesitated until it was opposite its right position; then he gunned the motor and gave it full right rudder. The BT pivoted neatly on one wheel—then not so neatly. There was a slow deliberation in its motion as the inner wheel rose from the ground and hung suspended in space. Then the wing tip touched, and the plane went into a wicked ground-loop.

In a fraction of a second all was chaos. The BT's prop bit into the wing of the next plane and loosed a stream of high octane gas from the tank. The gas struck the hot engine of the trainer and whooshed into a ball of flame that engulfed the front of the plane.

The group of cadets stood paralyzed. Too much was happening and too rapidly for them to grasp it. What could they do? Steve had been in spots like this before; he commanded groups like this before—it had been his job. He was in combat again and his thoughts moved quickly.

"You four men! All these planes have extinguishers in the cockpits—get them here—JUMP!"

They jumped, never questioning the authority in his voice. Steve was at the burning plane now, shouting over his shoulder:

"Glen, drive that gas truck out of here before

it goes up, too! You men with Rocky there, get around to the other side of the hangar where they preflight, and grab the big stand-by fire-extinguishers."

Steve was on the wing now, the fierce heat of the fire-beating at his back. The instructor who had unbuckled his safety strap, grasped Steve's hand and slid to the ground.

Frank was unconscious, sagging in his harness. With the smoke and heat of the fire blinding him, Steve felt for the buckles. His hands were like great clumsy gloves, the flame sucking the strength from them. Suddenly the injured man went limp and it drained his strength to the limit to drag the heavy body over the coaming.

But other hands were waiting to help. A wave of cold air swept over him as the foamite extinguishers went into action. He heard the wailing of the crash truck and sank into the black depths of unconsciousness.

He was in the hospital, he realized, his chest swathed with bandages. He was aware that his head turned. The man beside the bed was speaking:

"Glad to see you're all right, Chandler, I came over as soon as the tower phoned me."

Steve gazed at the colonel's eagles for a long time before it dawned upon him that here was the base CO He wondered should he salute or, perhaps, he at attention. But his thoughts were swept away by the officer's friendly grin.

"That was some quick thinking out there on the field. When I looked at your service record I understood why A man who has the Silver Star for bravery under fire would know how to handle himself in a tight situation. You saved the lives of those men, and you prevented the destruction of thousands of dollars worth of equipment.

"We need officers like you Chandler. The ability to reason and react quickly is just as important in a flying officer as book knowledge!"

Steve started to smile. Those words helped to heal over the little wounds of the past few months. But he was startled when he heard the voice of Frank Edwards from the next bed.

"Thanks, Steve—for a couple of things. You not only saved my life, but you taught me something else. I... well you know what I mean.... I'd like to apologize for some of the things I've said."

They smiled and their hands reached across the space between the beds to touch in a new bond of comradeship.

THE END





AND WHO SHOULD BE STROLLING THROUGH THE CORRIDOR? COLONEL "CHICKEN" CHICKERING -- HIMSELF!











I WISH CHICKERING WAS RIGHT











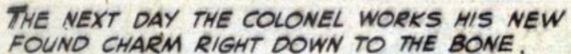












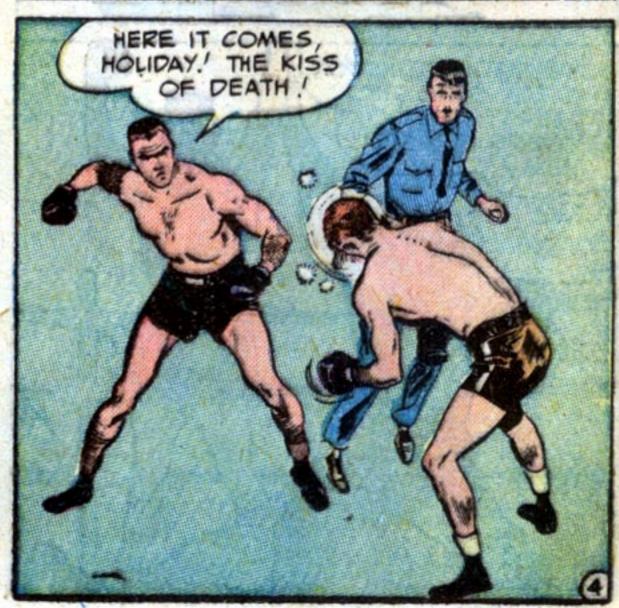


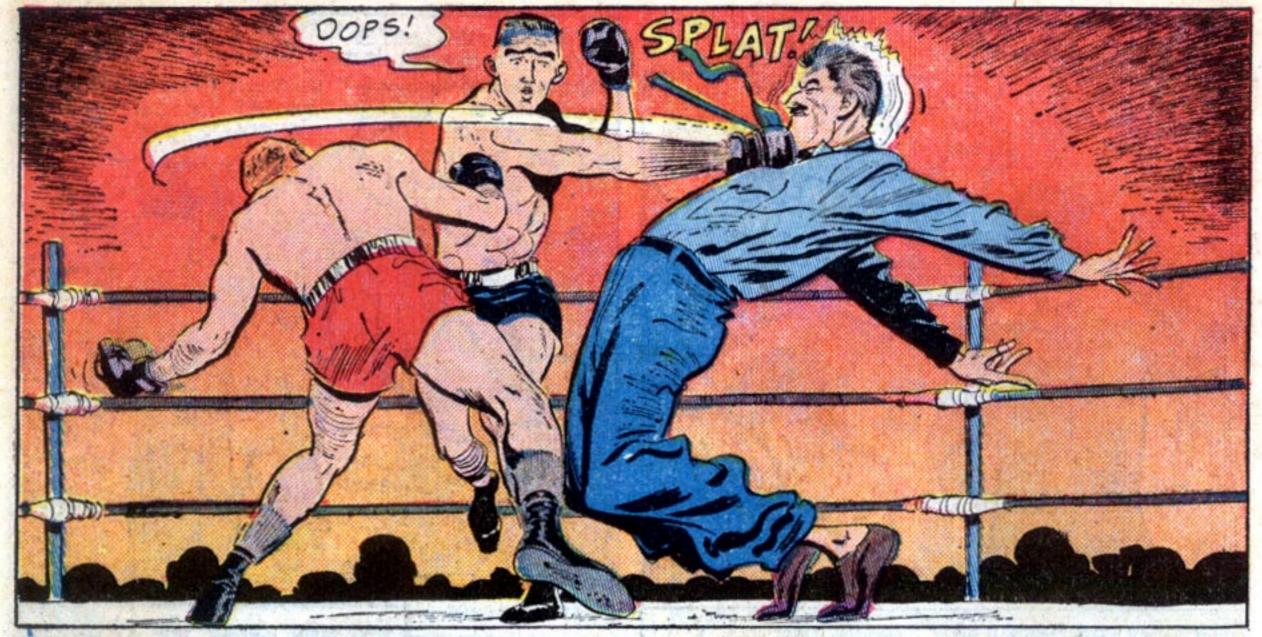


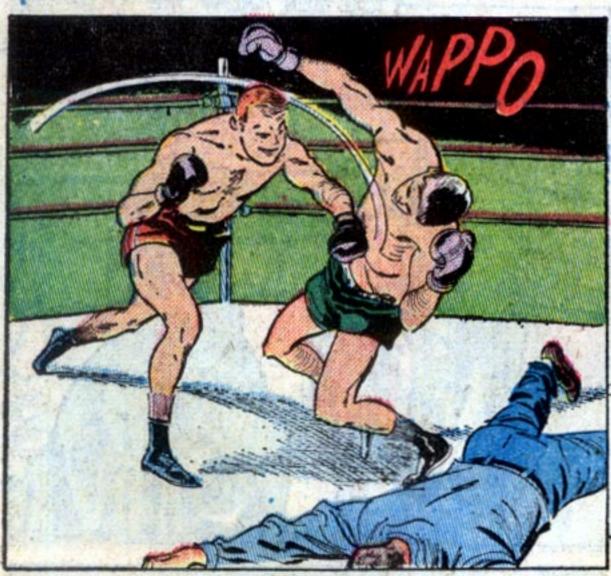


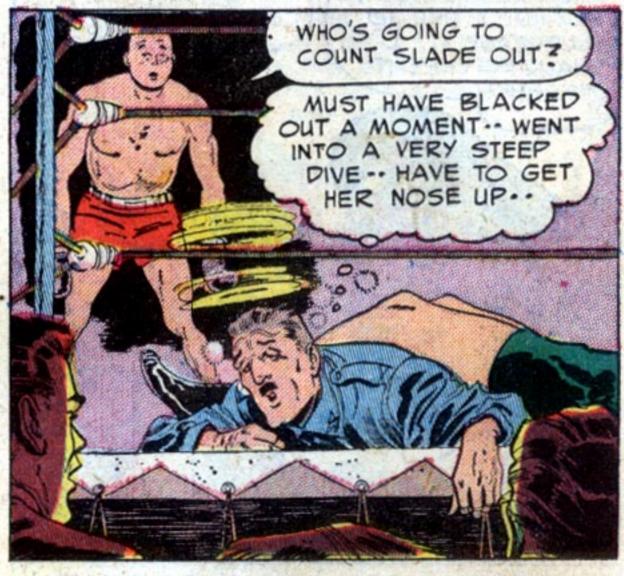










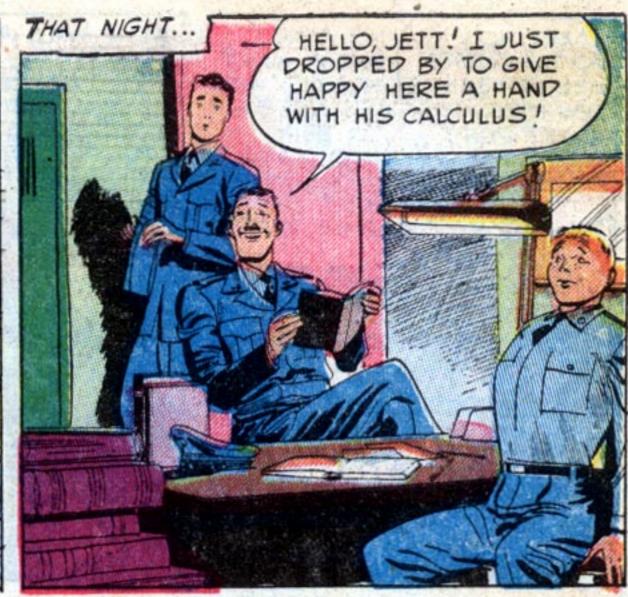


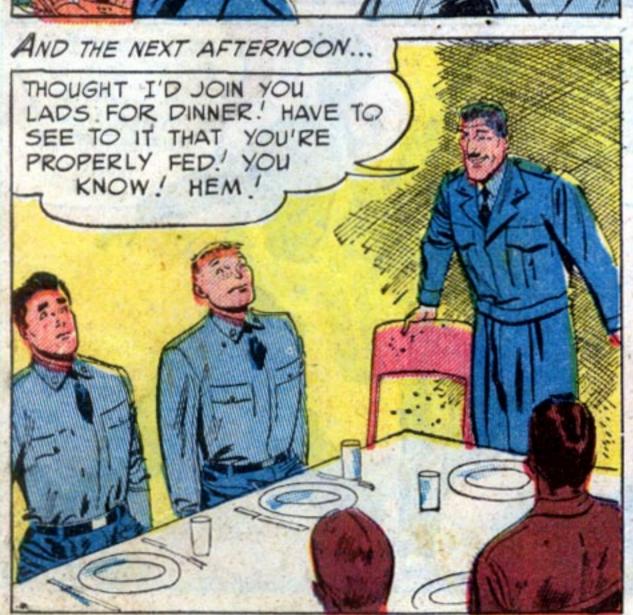






























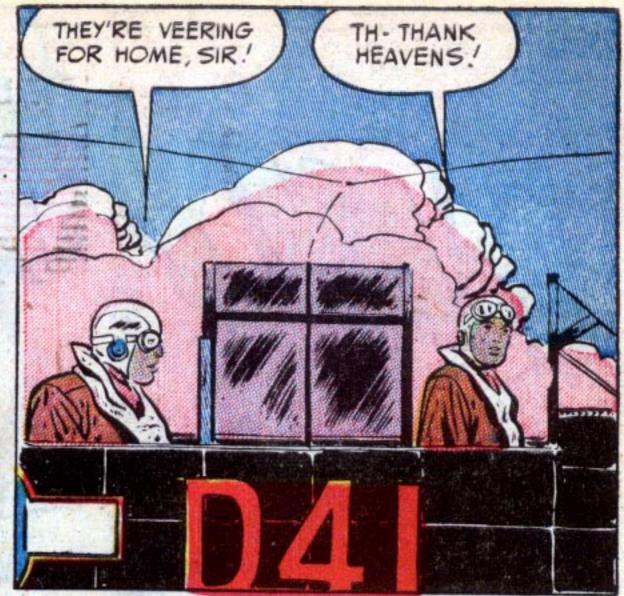


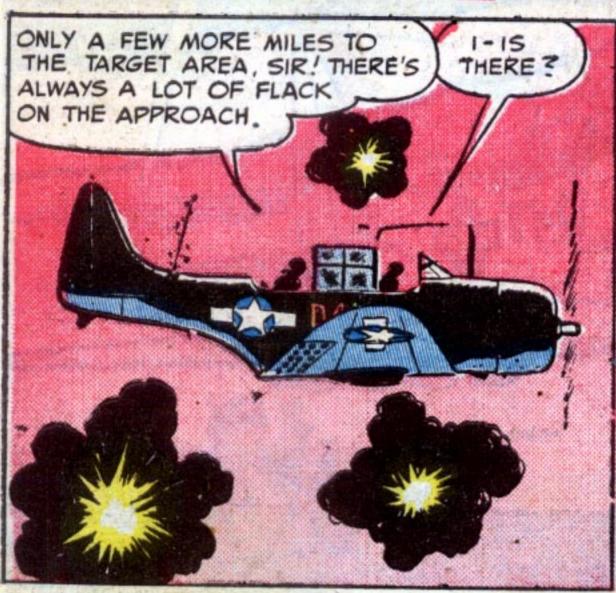


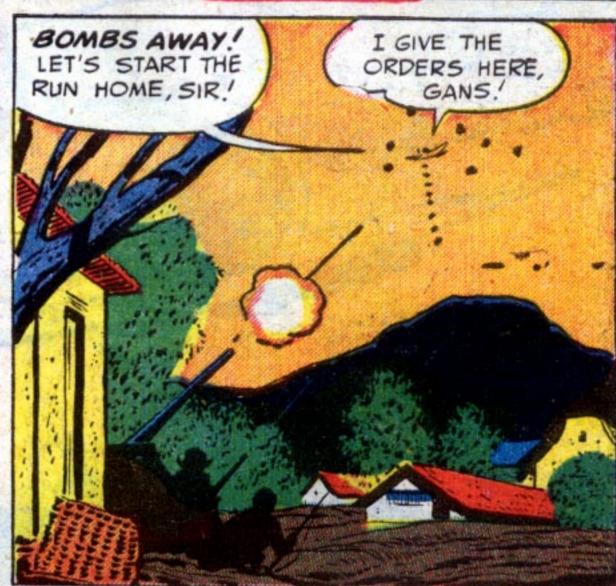


AS THE GROUP APPROACHES THE TARGET AREA. A SWARM OF MIGS FLIES OUT TO MEET THEM.

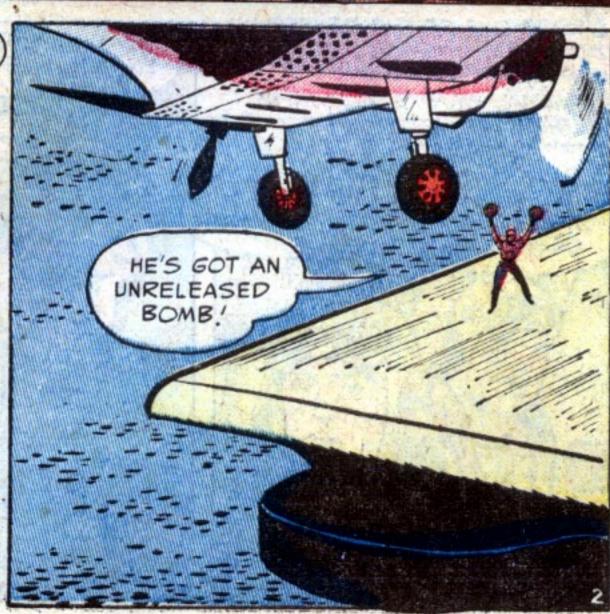


















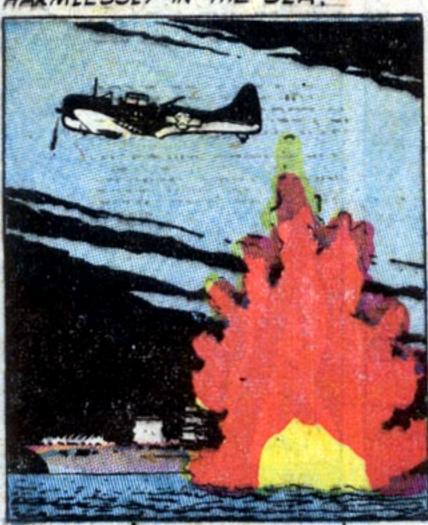


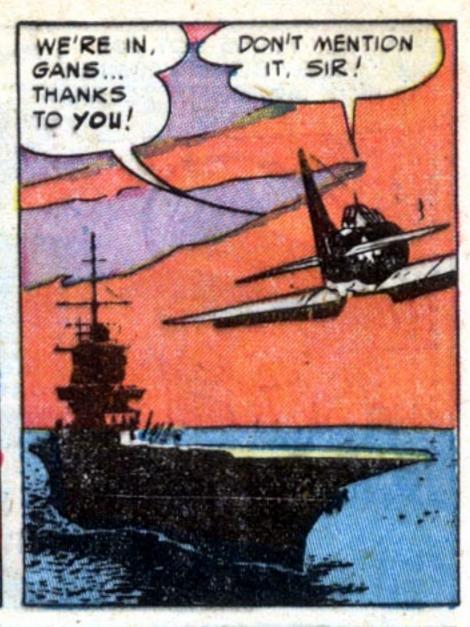






THANKS TO GAN'S COURAGE. THE BOMB DROPS AND EXPLODES HARMLESSLY IN THE SEA.

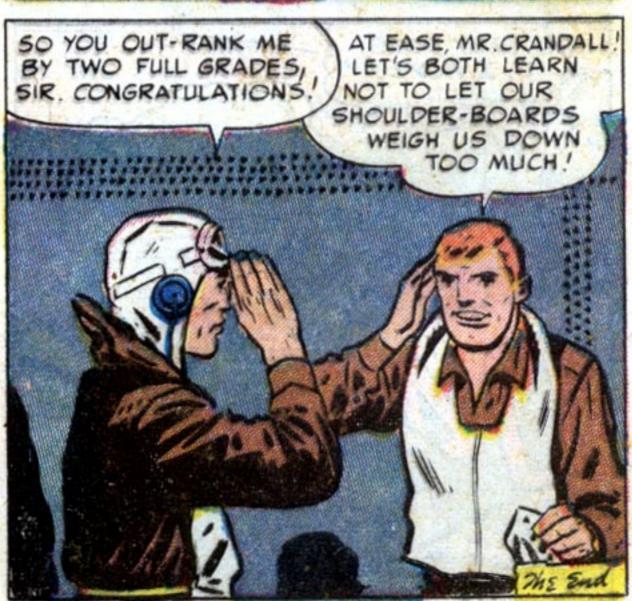


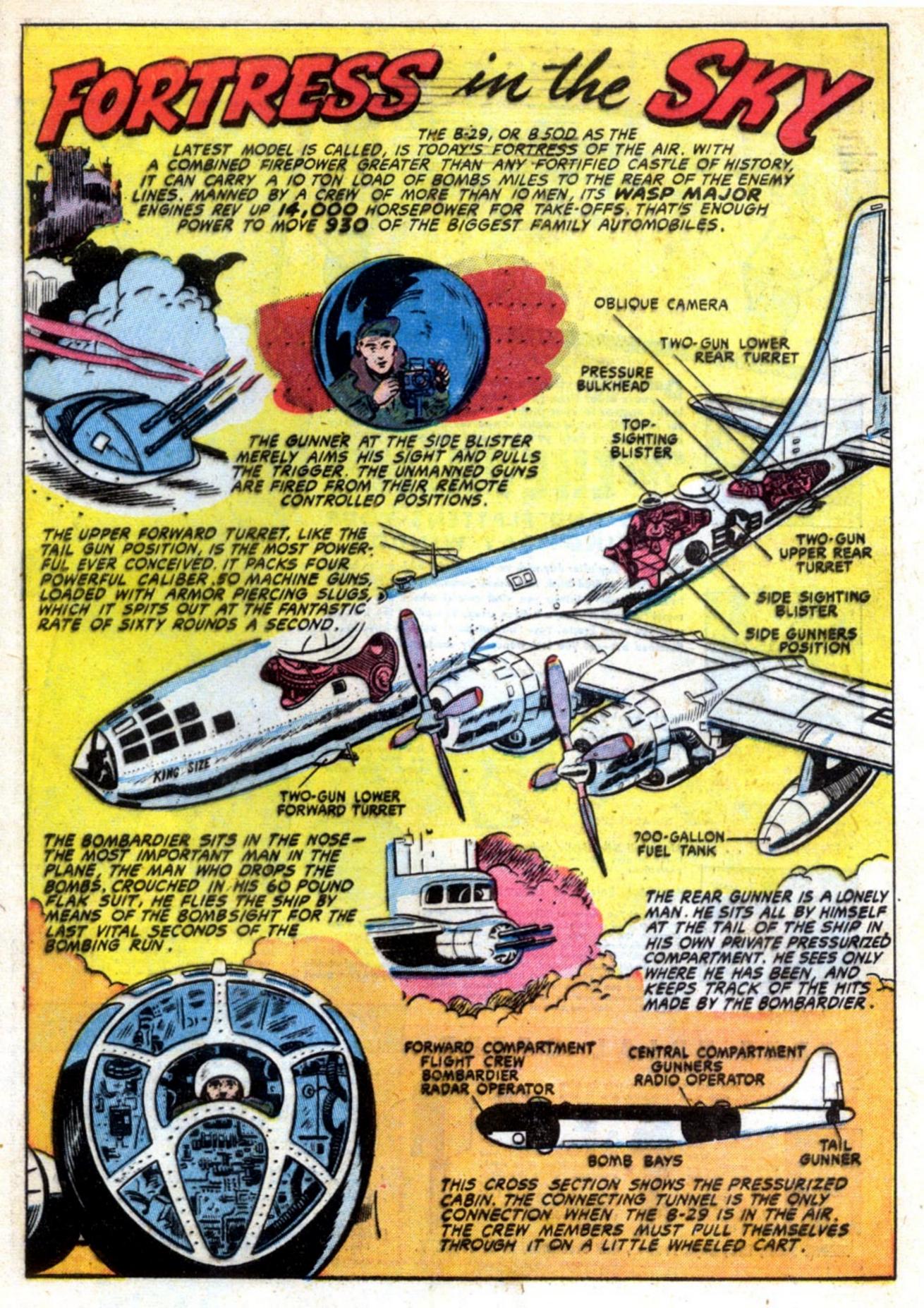












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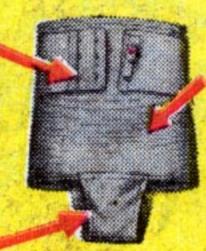
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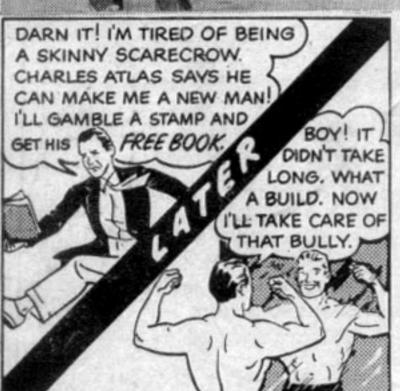
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